

Minutes of the Meeting of Mt. Seymour United Church Council
Held at 1200 Parkgate Avenue, North Vancouver, BC

November 9, 2016

Present: Rev. Nancy Talbot, Meg Clarke, Mary Sparks, Katherine Querns, Barry Fenton, Dilys Sostad, Roger Brain, Nicole George, Kim Branch.

Regrets: Catherine Branch, Steve Wellenbrink, Sharon Stevens, Rev. Wade Lifton.

Rev. Talbot opened the meeting at 6:40 pm.

1. Opening

Rev. Nancy opened with a check-in.

B. Fenton was invited to share his faith story.

M. Clarke is joining Council to represent the Thrift Store Management Team, acting in

C. Kelly's place for the short-term.

2. Approve Minutes

Council minutes were reviewed and amended. **M/S (B. Fenton /D. Sostad)** that the Minutes of the Council Meeting of October 12, 2016 be approved as amended.

Carried.

3. Committee Reports – by consent agenda. Discussion of any questions arising.

A Team Report

- D. Sostad made a presentation on behalf of the A-Team:
 - Current issues include interior painting of bathrooms and kitchen, sanctuary painting, and groundskeeping.

Financial Report

- R. Brain made a summary report
 - Quarterly report will be available for December
 - Will connect with interested candidates for bookkeeper position
 - Continuing to stay out of deficit position, however without any reserve funds
 - Budgeting process will begin, with review and finalization in January.
 - Committee chairs to prepare and send to R. Brain prior to January meeting

M&P Report

- Rev. Talbot provided an update
 - M&P representative S. Wellenbrink has had to step aside until January due to illness.
 - Staffing reviews and budget planning will continue to take place, with C. Branch and Rev. Talbot

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- R. Brain will meet with the committee and A team to assist with budgeting

4. New Business

- Working with R. Mains (handyman)
 - Funding in place until end of December for 6 hrs/week
 - Will plan for this ongoing funding in the 2017 budget
- Soft Campaign for November
 - Messaging for givings will be shared with the congregation during upcoming services
 - Emphasis on stepping up household givings, highlighting special projects and operating budget
- Full campaign for February/March
 - A dedicated planning meeting to plan for a Feb/March event will be organized
 - M. Clarke and R. Brain will prepare a proposal for next council meeting.

5. Council Priorities – Group Conversation

a. Building Spirituality

- Catherine, Roger and Nancy attended a workshop on governance
- Overarching theme that Council tends to the big picture of the church (mission)

b. Integration of our Ministries (Thrift Store)

Council discussed emerging issues with the Thrift Store

- Significant increases in revenues over last year.
- Donations have doubled, at times overwhelming the volunteers.
- Number of volunteers has increased.
- Need to be aware of potential for burnout among Management Team.
- Relationship with church is an ongoing topic that requires attention.

c. Financial Planning/Sustainability

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6. Updates

a. Ministers' Update

- Rev. Nancy provided an overview of recent and planned activities.
 - Soul Full Supper on October 30th was a success
 - Newcomers gathering rescheduled for November 20th, after the service. Invitation extended to Council members to join.
 - Worship Team has planned Advent season services and activities around the theme of Good News, Great Joy

7. Communications

8. Closing

N. Talbot called meeting to close at 8:40 pm.

Next Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, December 14, 2016
6:30 pm

Minutes Approved on December 14, 2016

Catherine Branch, Council Chair

Kim Branch, Secretary